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Sanderson writes, "to the real pith of the whole UAO business-ITF, or instant transference." In short, teleportation and materialization. Unacceptable to almost all of us, but it does explain the reported facts.

Despite its daring approach, the seasoned UFO reader will rate the Sanderson book much higher than the Edwards book. The latter carries on the unfortunate reportorial tradition of "a story at any price," let the facts fall where they may. Truth is outraged throughout the book. In describing just one case, for instance (one I have personally investigated), I find Edwards is wrong about the number of photographs taken, about the make of the camera, about the location of the camera, about the name of the mountain, and about the object's maneuvers "over a fire tower." All minor points, perhaps, but what is unforgivable in the interest of truth is the statement that the person taking the picture was interrogated after taking truth serum (sodium pentathol) and came through with flying colors. According to his direct statement to me, the person was not questioned under the influence of the drug. But it makes a better story.

The literature of the UFO, in this and other countries, is assuming large proportions. The librarian, apparently, will face the UFO problem before the scientist does.

Dr. Hynek is Professor of Astronomy at Northwestern University and Scientific Consultant to the U.S. Air Force on the subject of UFO's.

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REVIEWS continued from page 25
enon, as one of the better books. The classic, which is a "must," is the reissue, in paperback, of Captain Ruppelt's Report on Unidentified Flying Objects. Then there is Michel's Flying Saucers and the Straight-Line Mystery. The reader may not agree with the manner of presentation in these books, but he will gain some insight into the mysterious and controversial UFO phenomenon.

A good acquaintance with the subject is advisable before tackling the Sanderson book, Uninvited Visitors. It is not really a book for the beginner (yes, there can be beginners in the UFO field too!). Sanderson attempts to marshal and organize what is known today about UFO's, and he also asks I such questions as: What might UFO's be? What forms do UFO's take? What about the reported occupants of UFO's? Where might they come from? Do they exhibit "intelligent" behavior? He writes with skill; his book is certainly one of the more literate of the UFO books, albeit many will find it one of the "wilder" ones. Sanderson is not afraid to advance the thesis that, from a biologist's viewpoint, the UFO's may indeed be a form of animate matter. He supports his thesis by a logical array of facts that demonstrate that the reported behavior of UFO's exhibits many of the properties ordinarily ascribed to living things. If we have life forms in the dark depths of the ocean, and multifarious life forms on the surface, why not heretofore undiscovered animate matter in the upper reaches of the atmosphere? "And here once again," he writes, "we find ourselves confronted with the same old alternative-namely, that UAO's [he chooses UAO-Unexplained Aerial Objects- in preference to UFO] are either themselves life forms or they are constructed by life forms."

The thesis may shock the reader, but the arguments, based on a series of

premises, are logically presented. The major premise is, of course, that the reported action, behavior, etc., of UFO's are really so. Like so many UFO authors, he assumes that the reader will accept, without vigorous documentation, that what was said to have occurred, did occur. And so we are back where we started: did even one true UFO actually happen? Sanderson, accepting the facts as reported, boldly takes the steps that seem necessary to explain the facts. Since sudden appearances and disappearances are frequently reported, Sanderson treads where fools, as well as angels, have feared to tread; he accepts what mystics have been telling us for many centuries-that there is more to the world than meets the eye. "And this brings us squarely and frontally,"

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many black and white reproductions of 18th-century pictures being of the highest quality. It is unfortunate that the names of painters are not given." J. T. Flexner
NY Times Bk R D26 Je 30 '68 400w
[YA]
SANDERS RUTH MANNING.. See Manning-Sanders, R.
SANDERSON, IVAN T. Uninvited visitors: a biologist looks at UFO's. 244p $6.95 Cowles
629.13 Flying saucers
67-27192
A naturalist covers UFO's, UAO's (Unexplained Aerial Objects), and UAP's (Unidentified Atmospheric Phenomena) and speculates on the various life forms that may have visited our planet. Stories of witnesses to such events are reported. considered, and discussed." (Library J) Bibliography.
"[The author] is convinced that UAO's are observing mankind in an intelligent way, although this conclusion is never critically examined.
A good deal of modern biology is referred to, and (less accurately) physics and astronomy. [The book] is thus useful as collateral reading for high school and under-

graduate science courses. Contains a useful list of UFO organizations."
Choice 5:364 My '68 200w
"Sanderson's writings have always been popular and this time he may really have hit the jackpot of readers for he has something for everyone-believers and skeptics... He presents equal parts of scientific knowledge, imaginative speculation, and wish-thinking!
[He] offers an intriguing distillation of the testimony of numerous eyewitnesses and his own observation of strange phenomena in the sky and on the ground. Although he discounts the wilder fringes of crackpotism,' some of his speculation about invisibles' among us may cause scientific readers to nominate Mr. Sanderson for membership in that group. But the general public will find this book amusing. fascinating, and in part, convincing." E. T. Smith
Library J 92:4515 D 15 '67 160W
Reviewed by Regina Minudri
He
Library J 93 897 F 15 '68 90w [YA]
"[Although this book is] for the public and is written in a popular non-technical style, it is not really a book for the beginner (yes, there can be beginners in the UFO field too!). Sanderson attempts to marshal and organize what is known today about UFO's.
writes with skill; his book is certainly one of the more literate of the UFO books, albeit many will find it one of the 'wilder' ones, Sanderson is not afraid to advance the thesis that, from a biologist's viewpoint, the UFOs may indeed be a form of animate matter. He supports his thesis by a logical array of facts that demonstrate that the reported behavior of UFO's exhibits many of the properties ordinarily ascribed to living things." JA. Hynek
Natur Hist 77:24 Mr '68 800w

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Books in Review
UFO's and
the Numbers Game
by J. Allen Hynek
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Natural His ory
UNINVITED VISITORS, by Ivan T. Sand-

erson. Cowles Education Corp., $6.95; 244 pp., illus. FLYING SAUCERS-HERE AND NOW!, by Frank Edwards. Lyle Stuart, $5.95; 261 pp.

What's a good book on this whole UFO business?" or "Is there a really authoritative book on flying saucers where I can get the facts and judge for myself?" I am often asked these questions because of my long association with the UFO problem.

The appearance of still two more UFO books-Uninvited Visitors, by the naturalist Ivan Sanderson, and the posthumous Flying Saucers-Here and Now!, by the late Frank Edwards-provides us an opportunity not only to take a specific look at these books but to compare them with other UFO books within the framework of the above questions.

Virtually all UFO books suffer from the "numbers game." Their authors fail to see that the most important step any book could take-at least from the scientific skeptic's point of view-would be to establish beyond all reasonable doubt that just one of the reported, striking UFO cases really happened. That's all it would take to put the UFO problem on a scientific plane. If incontrovertible scientific evidence could be brought forth, say. that two policemen in their patrol car were truly buzzed by a fantastic craft, then science would be faced with a real challenge.

Instead, UFO authors generally try the opposite approach. Never adducing enough evidence to establish even one UFO case unequivocally, they "snow" us with case after case, one sketchy report after another, sometimes a hundred or more, under the impression that sheer numbers of improperly documented reports will establish the reality of the UFO phenomenon and gain for it scientific acceptance. We are told that at 2:00 A.M. Mrs. Jones saw a strange light out of her bathroom window, that earlier in the evening Mr. Smith saw a weird craft on his way home, and so on. The fault lies not en-

tirely with the author. Despite twenty years of UFO study, I know of no truly puzzling UFO report that has been given the "FBI treatment" where every clue and lead is followed to the bitter end, to get at the root of the matter, as is done in the case of a kidnapping, a narcotics case, etc.

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Both books reviewed here fall into this trap. Of course, a heavily footnoted, scientific document, painstakingly probing into

every crack and corner to establish incontrovertibly that even one true UFO exists (by true UFO, let us define an event that happened as described but that does not fit into our present scientific and technological framework), would eventually be more important than Origin of Species to philosophical outlook-but it

wouldn't sell. Both Uninvited Visitors and Flying Saucers-Here and Now! are for the public and are written in a popular non-technical style. This is particularly true of the Edwards book. Edwards was a newsman, and unabashedly wrote as a newsman, with his eye on the interest-capturing story and not on its veracity. His utter disregard for documentation will be galling to the intelligent reader; still, he tells many a good story-and some of them might just be true.

Edwards frankly states at the start that he treats the subject as a news-

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A barber in Ohio snapped this photo of a supposed UFO above a house.

man. "If the evidence constitutes what it seems to indicate, the presence of the UFO's amounts to one of the greatest news stories of all times and, as a professional newsman for more than forty years, I have tried to deal with it as such."

An outstanding fact about the Edwards book, however, which must be emphasized because of its implications, is that all of the many UFO stories he cites were reported in just a sixteen-

month period centered about 1966. He does not go into the past to dig up the worn UFO classics, but he works exclusively with well-reported sightings of the very recent past. This much I can personally vouch for: the entire call for a scientific study of the UFO phenomenon can be based on the mass of reports from 1965-67. Had no UFO's whatever preceded this period, enough interesting reports now exist to demand serious attention.

Why has such a study not been made? The sheer incredibility of the reports, for one thing. The espousal of the UFO cause by the wishful thinkers and the lunatic fringe, for another. But most important, the fact that most reported UFO's are really IFO's (Identified Flying Objects)-misidentifications of familiar things seen under unusual circumstances. We are forced to our original point: what is needed is a UFO book-perhaps of several volumes-devoted to one case alone, establishing its reality as a true UFO rather than as a misidentification or hallucination.

One book, Incident at Exeter, by the newsman and writer John Fuller, has valiantly attempted this, and had the approach been made with the aid of hard-nosed scientific investigators it might have succeeded. As it stands it excites and intrigues but does not convince, at least, not the scientist.

A book directed toward the scientist is Vallee's Challenge to Science, but once again it has failed to pack a scientific punch. To one who wishes to become quickly informed on the global UFO problem, it nonetheless rates, along with his Anatomy of a Phenom-

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